THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from all State Governments/Union Territories.

(d) The Government is carefully examining various aspects/implications of the judgment dated 14.02.2006 given by the Supreme Court in the case of Smt. Seema *Vs* Ashwani Kumar, AIR 2006 S.C. 1158.

Law colleges in Jharkhand

† 1381. SHRI AJAY MAROO; Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of colleges in Jharkhand, imparting legal education;

(b) whether more law colleges are proposed to be opened or whether Government intend to do so; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Bar Council of India has informed that the total number of law colleges in the State of Jharkhand, having its approval of affiliation is 08.

(b) and (c) The Bar Council of India has not received any proposal from the State Government in this regard.

Scheduled caste judges

† 1382. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of male and female justices belonging to scheduled caste category in the Rajasthan High Court;

(b) whether there is a provision of reservation for the schedule castes in the high courts and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government proposes to provide reservation in the high courts and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

Appointments of Judges of High Courts are made under Article 217 of the Constitution of India which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. No statistics are, therefor, available about the number of male and female judges belonging to scheduled caste category in the Rajasthan High Court. Any change in the present system would require Constitutional amendment.

After the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6,1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record & Anr. *Vs.* Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28,1998, the entire process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge in a High Court lies

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has, therefore, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities and amongst Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

Kimberlite pipes in A.P.

1383. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified 110 kimberlite pipes (diamond-bearing formations) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of areas of the State identified, so far as kimberlitic areas and the details of findings in these areas;

(c) whether Government is proposing to amend the National Mining Policy for allowing the transfer of mining leases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified 62 kimberlite pipes in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Two major kimberlite fields, namely, Wajrakarur Kimberlite Field (WKF) in Anantapur district and Narayanpet Kiberlite field (NKF) in Mahaboobnagar district have been discovered. 29 kimberlite pipes have been located in WKF of which 18 pipes are diamondiferous and 24 kimberlite pipes have been located in NKF. In between WKF and NKF, 9 kimberlite pipes have been located.

(c) Provision for transfer of mining leases already exists in Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Agreement for exploration of mineral resources

1384. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient details of agreements executed with domestic and foreign companies for exploration and harnessing of mining resources in various States during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the details of economic benefits estimated to be accuring, *inter-alia,* to the State exchequer, consequent to these mining activities;

(c) the nature and intensity of consultations held, if any, with the respective State Governments and other stake holders, in each case;

(d) the details of tribal/rural habitations to be subjected to displacement due to consequent implementation of these mining licenses, State-wise; and

(e) the programmes evolved, if any, for their rehabilitation and livelihood?